

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 095686
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-03 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 AF-10 NEA-10
EUR-12 IO-13 /110 R

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-----004901 140523Z /21

P R 140007Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY
CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII PRIORITY 0114
CINCPACFLT PRIORITY
PACAF PRIORITY
INFO SECNAV
SECAF

S E C R E T STATE 095686

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, SN

SUBJECT: PUBLIC AFFAIRS GUIDANCE FOR P-3 FLIGHTS

- -;

REFS: (A) CINCPAC 110049Z APR 78; (B) SINGAPORE 1506

- 040010Z APR 78; (C) CINCPAC 010110Z APR 78

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PAGE 02 STATE 095686

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE

THE FOLLOWING CONTINGENCY STATEMENT AND QUESTIONS AND
ANSWERS ARE FURNISHED FOR YOUR USE AS NECESSARY IN RESPOND-
ING TO PRESS QUERIES CONCERNING P-3 FLIGHTS. QUESTIONS
BEYOND THE SCOPE OF THESE COMMENTS/RESPONSES SHOULD BE
SUBMITTED TO CINCPAC FOR REPLY AND COORDINATION. QUOTE:

FOR MANY YEARS U.S. NAVY AND AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT HAVE BEEN MAKING REGULAR FLIGHTS TO AREAS OF THE PACIFIC AND INDIAN OCEANS AND THE SOUTH CHINA SEA. SOME OF THEM STOP BRIEFLY IN (COUNTRY NAME) FOR FUEL AND CREW REST. CLEARANCE FOR THESE FLIGHTS IS ALWAYS REQUESTED IN ADVANCE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF (COUNTRY) WHICH HAS INTERPOSED NO OBJECTION TO THEM. UNQUOTE.

Q1 WHAT IS THE P-3 AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

A1 THE P-3 AIRCRAFT IS DESIGNED FOR LONG RANGE OCEANIC SURVEILLANCE AND ANTISUBMARINE WARFARE.

Q2 ARE THESE FLIGHTS ASSOCIATED WITH ANY PARTICULAR MILITARY OR POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE PACIFIC OR INDIAN OCEANS OR SOUTH CHINA SEA?

A2 NO.

Q3 DO THESE FLIGHTS GO TO DIEGO GARCIA?

A3 OCCASIONALLY THEY DO.

Q4 HOW OFTEN DO P-3 AIRCRAFT LAND HERE?

A4 IT IS NOT A REGULAR SCHEDULE. THESE FLIGHTS FOR FUEL, MAINTENANCE AND CREW REST ARE ROUTINE. THEY ARE PLANNED IN ADVANCE AND ROUTINE DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE IS REQUESTED.

Q5 WILL ANY AMERICANS BE ASSIGNED TO SINGAPORE TO SERVICE
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PAGE 03 STATE 095686

P-3 FLIGHTS?

A5 NO.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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